



# THE HUSBAND'S DREAM.

Why, Dermot, you look healthy now, your dress is neat and clean ;  
I never see you drunk about, oh ! tell me where you've been ;  
Your wife and family all are well, you once did use them strange ;  
Oh ! you are kinder to them, how came this happy change ?

It was a dream, a warning voice, which Heaven sent to me  
To snatch me from the drunkard's curse grim want and misery ;  
My wages all were spent in drink, oh ! what a wretched view !  
I almost broke my Mary's heart, and starved my children too.

What was my home or wife to me ? I heeded not her sigh ;  
Her patient smile has welcom'd me when tears bedim'd her eye ;  
My children, too, have oft awoke : oh, father dear, they've said,  
Poor Mother has been weeping so because we've had no bread.

My Mary's form did waste away, I saw her sunken eye,  
On straw my babes in sickness laid, I heard their wailing cry ;  
I laugh'd and sung in drunken joy, while Mary's tears did stream,  
Then like a beast I fell asleep and had this warning dream !

I thought once more I stagger'd home, there seem'd a solemn gloom ;  
I missed my wife, where can she be ? and strangers in the room ;  
I heard them say : Poor thing, she's dead, she led a wretched life,  
Grief Mother has broken her heart, who'd be a drunkard's wife !

I saw my children weeping round, I scarcely drew my breath :  
They called and kiss'd her lifeless form for ever still'd in death.  
Oh ! father, come and wake her up, the people say she's dead,  
Oh ! make her smile and speak once more, we'll never cry for bread.

She is not dead, I frantic cried, and rush'd to where she lay,  
And madly kiss'd her once warm lips, forever cold as clay ;  
Oh ! Mary, speak one word to me, no more I'll cause you pain,  
No more I'll grieve your loving heart, nor ever drink again.

Dear Mary, speak, 'tis Dermot calls. Why, so I do ! she cried.  
I 'woke, and true my Mary dear was kneeling by my side.  
I press'd her to my throbbing heart, while joyous tears did stream,  
And ever since I've heaven bless'd for sending me that dream !

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